

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY (Chapter I of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Rule 44bis)

Applicant's or agent's file reference PHNL030958WO	FOR FURTHER ACTION	See item 4 below
International application No. PCT/IB2004/051362	International filing date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 02 August 2004 (02.08.2004)	Priority date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 07 August 2003 (07.08.2003)
International Patent Classification (8th edition unless older edition indicated) See relevant information in Form PCT/ISA/237		
Applicant KONINKLIJKE PHILIPS ELECTRONICS N.V.		

1. This international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I) is issued by the International Bureau on behalf of the International Searching Authority under Rule 44 bis.1(a).
2. This REPORT consists of a total of 6 sheets, including this cover sheet.

In the attached sheets, any reference to the written opinion of the International Searching Authority should be read as a reference to the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I) instead.

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. I	Basis of the report
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. II	Priority
<input type="checkbox"/> Box No. III	Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
<input type="checkbox"/> Box No. IV	Lack of unity of invention
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
<input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VI	Certain documents cited
<input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VII	Certain defects in the international application
<input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII	Certain observations on the international application
4. The International Bureau will communicate this report to designated Offices in accordance with Rules 44bis.3(c) and 93bis.1 but not, except where the applicant makes an express request under Article 23(2), before the expiration of 30 months from the priority date (Rule 44bis .2).

The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland Facsimile No. +41 22 740 14 35	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Date of issuance of this report 13 February 2006 (13.02.2006)</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Authorized officer <div style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">Idhir Britel</div></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Telephone No. +41 22 338 70 60</td> </tr> </table>	Date of issuance of this report 13 February 2006 (13.02.2006)	Authorized officer <div style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">Idhir Britel</div>	Telephone No. +41 22 338 70 60
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Telephone No. +41 22 338 70 60				

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

REC'D 05 NOV 2004

To:

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see form PCT/ISA/220

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY
(PCT Rule 43bis.1)

Date of mailing
(day/month/year) see form PCT/ISA/210 (second sheet)

Applicant's or agent's file reference
see form PCT/ISA/220

FOR FURTHER ACTION
See paragraph 2 below

International application No.
PCT/B2004/051362

International filing date (day/month/year)
02.08.2004

Priority date (day/month/year)
07.08.2003

International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC
G06T7/60

Applicant
KONINKLIJKE PHILIPS ELECTRONICS N.V.

1. This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:

- ☒ Box No. I Basis of the opinion
- ☒ Box No. II Priority
- ☐ Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- ☐ Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention
- ☒ Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- ☐ Box No. VI Certain documents cited
- ☐ Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application
- ☐ Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

2. **FURTHER ACTION**

If a demand for international preliminary examination is made, this opinion will usually be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA"). However, this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than this one to be the IPEA and the chosen IPEA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 66.1bis(b) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered.

If this opinion is, as provided above, considered to be a written opinion of the IPEA, the applicant is invited to submit to the IPEA a written reply together, where appropriate, with amendments, before the expiration of three months from the date of mailing of Form PCT/ISA/220 or before the expiration of 22 months from the priority date, whichever expires later.

For further options, see Form PCT/ISA/220.

3. For further details, see notes to Form PCT/ISA/220.

Name and mailing address of the ISA:



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**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY**

International application No.
PCT/IB2004/051362

Box No. I Basis of the opinion

1. With regard to the **language**, this opinion has been established on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
 - ☐ This opinion has been established on the basis of a translation from the original language into the following language , which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1(b)).
2. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of:
 - a. type of material:
 - ☐ a sequence listing
 - ☐ table(s) related to the sequence listing
 - b. format of material:
 - ☐ in written format
 - ☐ in computer readable form
 - c. time of filing/furnishing:
 - ☐ contained in the international application as filed.
 - ☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
 - ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search.
3. ☐ In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.
4. Additional comments:

**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY**

International application No.
PCT/IB2004/051362

Box No. II Priority

1. ☒ The following document has not been furnished:

☒ copy of the earlier application whose priority has been claimed (Rule 43*bis*.1 and 66.7(a)).

☐ translation of the earlier application whose priority has been claimed (Rule 43*bis*.1 and 66.7(b)).

Consequently it has not been possible to consider the validity of the priority claim. This opinion has nevertheless been established on the assumption that the relevant date is the claimed priority date.

2. ☐ This opinion has been established as if no priority had been claimed due to the fact that the priority claim has been found invalid (Rules 43*bis*.1 and 64.1). Thus for the purposes of this opinion, the international filing date indicated above is considered to be the relevant date.

3. Additional observations, if necessary:

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43*bis*.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Yes: Claims	1-15
	No: Claims	
Inventive step (IS)	Yes: Claims	1-15
	No: Claims	
Industrial applicability (IA)	Yes: Claims	1-15
	No: Claims	

2. Citations and explanations

see separate sheet

1. Reference is made to the following documents:

- D1: US 2001/045950 A1 (Endo et al.) 29 November 2001
- D2: Malik et al.: "Recovering three-dimensional shape from a single image of curved objects" IEEE Transactions on Pattern Analysis and Machine Intelligence, IEEE Inc. New York, US, vol. 11, no. 6, 1 June 1989, pages 555-566, XP000034112
- D3: Strelow et al.: "Extending shape-from-motion to noncentral omnidirectional cameras" Proceedings of the 2001 IEEE/RSJ International Conference on Intelligent Robots and Systems. (IROS 2001). Maui, Hawaii, Oct. 29 - Nov. 3, 2001, IEEE/RSJ International Conference on Intelligent Robots and Systems, New York, NY: IEEE, US, vol. 1 of 4, 29 October 2001, pages 2086-2092, XP010573423

2. **Item V: Reasoned statement with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement**

2.1 The present application meets the requirements of Articles 33(2) and 33(3) PCT because the subject matter of claims 1 and 13-15 is novel and involves an inventive step, the reasons being as follows:

As to claim 1:

D1 discloses:

- A method of object processing for at least one image (see abstract, lines 1-3 supported by figure 4) comprising the steps of:
- detecting a plurality of image points associated with at least one object of the at least one image (see abstract, lines 3-10 supported by figure 4);

D1 however fails to disclose:

- grouping the plurality of image points into at least a group of object points and a group of junction points; and individually processing the image points of the group of object points and the group of junction points.

No junction point, which are processed individually with the object points are determined neither in D1 nor in any of the other available prior art on file.

An inventive step can be acknowledged.

As to claims 13-15:

Claims 13-15 are the corresponding computer program, record carrier and apparatus claims to present method claim 1 and therefore also fail to meet the requirements of Article 33(2) PCT for lack of novelty applying the same respective reasoning as for claim 1 above.

- 2.2 Contrary to the requirements of Rule 5.1(a)(ii) PCT, the relevant background art disclosed in the documents D1, D2 and D3 is not mentioned in the description, nor are these documents identified therein.